

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 were presented for examination.

Claims 1-34 were rejected.

Claim 35 was objected to.

Applicant is hereby amending claims 1, 12, 15, 16, 20, 25 and 28; canceling claims 23-24 and 35; and adding new claims 36-39; all of the foregoing merely to distinctly claim its invention.

Reconsideration of this application as amended, and allowance of all pending claims, claims 1-22, 25-34 and 36-39 as amended, are hereby respectfully requested.

Amendments to Specification

The objections to the disclosure are noted. Applicant is amending paragraphs 39 and 44 to include the serial numbers for the two referenced applications. These serial numbers were not available at the time of filing of this application. However, since the applications were originally identified at the time of filing by attorney docket number, title and filing date, Applicant submits that no new matter is added and that the incorporation by reference is effective.

Paragraph 46 has been revised to omit the reference 620 from the connector. In the revised paragraph, 620 refers only to a carriage, thus addressing the Examiner's objection.

Claims 12-16 and 28-29: under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 12-16 and 28-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has addressed the issued raised as follows:

Claims 12, 15 and 28 are amended to recite that N is an integer greater than 1, which should adequately address the rejections of claims 12, 14, 15, 28 and 29.

Claim 16 is amended to expressly recite “total array length” instead of just “length,” which should adequately address the rejection of claim 16.

Applicant submits that these claims as amended now define the invention with sufficient particularity and distinctiveness to be patentable to Applicant.

Claims 1-22, 25-34 and 36-39: Claim 35 was allowable, and all pending claims are revised to mirror claim 35.

Dependent claim 35 was objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form. Independent claim 25 is amended to include the limitations of claim 35 and all intervening claims. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 25, its dependent claims 26-34 and new dependent claims 36-39 are now allowable.

Independent device claim 1 is amended similarly. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-22 are also allowable for the same reasons.

In light of these amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that all other rejections are moot and the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

Closing

Applicant is submitting herewith new claims 36-39 to provide the scope and breadth of claims coverage to which it believes it is entitled in view of the cited art.

Applicant believes that the application is in condition for allowance of all claims herein, claims 1-22, 25-34 and 36-39 as amended, and therefore an early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that for any reason direct contact with Applicant's attorney would help advance the prosecution of this case to finality, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 13, 2006

By: 

Michael W. Farn
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 41,015

Fenwick & West LLP
Silicon Valley Center
801 California Street
Mountain View, CA 94041
(650) 335-7823 (Tel)
(650) 938-5200 (Fax)